



JJPOC Diversion Work Group
May 1st, 2020
11:00AM-12:00PM
Zoom Conference Call

Meeting Summary:

1. JJPOC Update

- TYJI summarized updates from Executive Committee meeting. Attendance from the most recent meeting held on April 3rd included the JJPOC workgroup co-chairs. DOC, Judicial, DCF, community-based providers, and SDE. Relevant reports and updates of their organizations' response plan to COVID-19 were provided. TYJI plans on reconvening all JJPOC workgroups in May 2020. TYJI also plans on providing updated documents regarding response plans at the next JJPOC meeting (tentatively scheduled for May 21st).
- TYJI summarized updates from the Council of State Governments IOYouth Initiative. The Task Force meeting was rescheduled from April 22nd to May 13th via videoconference. CSG has been scheduling various focus groups and meetings with YSB, Judicial, and DOC to prepare for the next Task Force meeting. CSG will be presenting an analysis of the deep end of the system and they have begun to formulate draft recommendations. The goal is to have report with recommendations of full spectrum of system by the end of June 2020. Although CSG's contract will end in June, they will continue to work with the state if it is determined that recommendations/policy changes will move forward.
- In relation to JJPOC recommendations, the workgroups will continue to enhance the proposed and adopted recommendations to be reintroduced in the 2021 JJPOC legislation.

2. Update from Subgroups

- FWSN
 - i. There is a deadline of July 1st to continue trying to prepare for the legislative changes
 - ii. There are finalized versions of referral form and informational guidelines for parents. There was also a memo created for specific distribution to the police.
 - iii. Next steps are trying to figure out how to educate/market the changes. Forms will be available online and there will be hard copies at YSBs and police.
- Raising the Minimum Age
 - i. TYJI will send email out to larger diversion workgroup to recruit more members for this subgroup in order to reconvene and enhance the recommendation to raise the minimum age to 12.

- ii. There is still ability to form a plan for services of youth ages 7-11 prior to the legislative session in 2021. The subgroup now has the opportunity to discuss any concerns that were brought forth when recommendations were first presented. The goal is to create basic framework before session and attempt to start work virtually until meetings in person become an option. There was a recommendation to include DCF into planning process.

3. Discussion of Future 2020 Workgroup Plans

- Virtual meetings will begin/resume in order to meet the FWSN deadline of July 1, 2020.
- The subgroup for Raising the Minimum Age will recruit members and outline a plan for their work this year.

4. Organization Updates

- CYSA has been collecting surveys from YSBs and JRBs to see if/ how they are accepting new applications. They are determining how to have full meetings virtually, or just do intakes. Trying to create recommendations and guidelines for JRBs. Many agencies are looking for guidelines and protocols, different for everyone based on services they are providing. Will be providing restorative practices training virtually with three upcoming dates in May.
- TYJI research team is still active. With the Rewarding Research Project grant from OJJDP, they have been reviewing RED data in the state. They identified 10 cities and profiled them. They also started interviewing JRB leadership from those 10 cities to provide information on how each are operating. Their goal is to engage with leadership to help understand what happens similarly or different among diversion services providers. The Health Housing Education and Justice Project has the team putting together curriculum for police engaging with youth in the community. Although currently on hold, updates will be provided in summer/fall.
- CT Voices for Children released report on COVID-19 federal responses, which details key provisions on how they apply to children and families.
- CCA is working with districts to do more to eliminate educational inequity and raise standard of what they can provide to students. working with SDE and OCA. They are raising expectations of what people can offer and releasing webinars on their website.
- CTJJA will be launching a new campaign: “Invest in me CT” which will host sessions with young people discussing the inequities, lack of trust, and trauma that funneled those youth into system.
- Office of the Chief State’s Attorney reported that two of the eleven juvenile courts are currently open and only detention-related cases are being heard. Those cases are currently being conducted through video conferencing. It was also noted that there could be a significant backlog of cases when the courts open again. There was also on JRBs and family involvement.

Next Meeting- Friday, July 3rd, 2020 Location: TBD